

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-02 AF-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /071 W
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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2420
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 01363

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV UK RH
SUBJECT: FOREIGN SECRETARY'S STATEMENT

THE FOREIGN SECRETARY MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT IN
PARLIAMENT THIS AFTERNOON, JAN 25:
BEGIN TEXT THE GOVERNMENT WITH THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ARE CONTINUING TO WORK FOR A
RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT WHICH WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND CONTRIBUTE TO PEACE AND
PROSPERITY IN AN INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE. I SHALL BE
MEETING MR. NKOMO AND MR. MUGABE, THE JOINT LEADERS OF
THE PATRIOTIC FRONT, IN MALTA ON 30 JANUARY. I SHALL BE
ACCOMPANIED BY LORD CARVER AND BY AMBASSADOR ANDREW
YOUNG, AND I HOPE THAT THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL WILL BE
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REPRESENTED BY GENERAL PREM CHAND. THE OBJECT OF THE
TALKS IS TO DISCUSS WITH THE LEADERS OF THE PATRIOTIC
FRONT THE WHOLE RANGE OF QUESTIONS ARISING FROM THE
ANGLO-US PROPOSALS, PARTICULARLY THE SUBSTANTIVE
MATTERS. END TEXT.

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

2. OWEN'S STATEMENT FELL SHORT OF THE DRAFT WHICH THE FCO HAD PREPARED FOR HIM AND THEREFORE COULD NOT BE USED TO SATISFY HARRIMAN'S CONCERNS. THE FCO DRAFT INCLUDED A FULL STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES, STATING SPECIFICALLY THAT "...A SETTLEMENT MUST PROVIDE FOR A GENUINE TRANSFER OF POWER BY THE REGIME AND THE INSTITUTION OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CONDUCT OF INTERNATIONAL GUARANTEED CONDITIONS OF MANIFESTLY FREE AND IMPARTIAL ELECTIONS HELD ON THE BASIS OF UNIVERSAL ADULT SUFFRAGE IN WHICH ALL PEOPLE AND PARTIES ARE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE ON EQUAL TERMS." IT IS CUSTOMARY THAT MINISTERIAL RESPONSES TO PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS ARE SHORT WHICH IS LIKELY THE REASON OWEN OMITTED A DESCRIPTION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF A SETTLEMENT.

3. IN RESPONSE TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR, HOWEVER, OWEN MADE THE POINT THAT AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT WHICH EXCLUDES ONE OF THE NATIONALIST GROUPS COULD NOT PROVIDE FOR FAIR ELECTIONS IN PEACEFUL CIRCUMSTANCES. HE ALSO STATED THAT AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT WAS UNLIKELY TO RECEIVE INTERNATIONAL ENDORSEMENT WITH THE CONSEQUENCE OF GROWING INSTABILITY IN THE REGION. HE FURTHER STATED THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT GIVE LEGAL CONSENT TO ANY SETTLEMENT WHICH FAILED TO SATISFY THE PRINCIPLES OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSAL.

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BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 25 jan 1978
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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TAGS: PDEV, UK, RH, US
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